

an alkaline electrolyte.

35. (Amended) A primary alkaline battery, comprising:

a cathode comprising a cathode active material, a binder, and carbon fibers;

an anode;

a separator; and

an alkaline electrolyte,

wherein the cathode comprises greater than about 86% of the cathode active material by weight.

Please add the following new claims:

37. The battery of claim 1, wherein the binder comprises a material selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polyacrylamide, polytetrafluoroethylene, and polyvinylidenefluoride.

38. The battery of claim 1, wherein the cathode comprises between 0.1% to about 1% by weight of the binder.

39. A primary alkaline battery, comprising:

a cathode comprising a cathode active material and less than about 5% of carbon by weight, the carbon comprising carbon fibers;

an anode;

a separator; and

an alkaline electrolyte.

40. The battery of claim 39, wherein the cathode further comprises a binder.

41. A primary alkaline battery, comprising:

a cathode comprising a cathode active material and carbon, the carbon consisting of carbon fibers;

an anode;
a separator; and
an alkaline electrolyte.

42 The battery of claim 41, wherein the cathode includes less than about 5% of carbon by weight

43. The battery of claim 41, wherein the cathode further comprises a binder.